STATE OF ARIZONA EXECUTIVE OFFICE JANET NAPOLITANO GOVERNOR WWW.AZGOVERNOR.GOV



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NAPOLITANO AIDE LEVEY RECEIVES NATIONAL HONOR Recognized by Department of Justice for His Work with Victims

PHOENIX – Governor Janet Napolitano announced that Dan Levey is the 2007 winner of the Ronald Wilson Reagan Public Policy award. Levey, who was appointed by the Governor in 2003 to serve as her Policy Adviser for Victims Issues, was chosen by the U.S. Department of Justice to receive the honor. The award recognizes an individual whose leadership, vision and innovation results in significant changes to public policy and practice pertaining to the victims of crime.

"Dan's work has moved mountains for crime victims, here in Arizona and across the nation," Governor Napolitano said. "Victims need and should get the power to understand the system, the power to change it, and the power to heal. Dan works with an unflagging commitment to make sure that all crime victims in Arizona have the compassion and assistance they deserve."

U.S. Attorney General Alberto R. Gonzales was at the D.C. ceremony on Friday. He said, "The award recipients we are recognizing today have demonstrated the commitment and dedication it takes to ensure that all victims are heard, and not forgotten. Many of these recipients work tirelessly, unrecognized and behind the scenes, and today I am honored to bring their work to the forefront."

Monday marked the start of Victims' Rights Week in Arizona, which opened with a ceremony at the State Capitol. During that ceremony, Governor Napolitano presented the Triumph Over Tragedy award to Miss Arizona 2006, Hilary Griffith. Since a sexual assault several years ago, Griffith has devoted her time and efforts toward achieving a more open and enlightened approach to assisting victims who have been sexually attacked.

Governor Napolitano, along with Department of Corrections Director Dora Schriro, presented checks totaling \$106,000 to Mothers Against Drunk Driving and Students Against Destructive Decisions. The money, which will go toward prevention programs, education and victim advocacy, was raised by inmates and ADC guards during various fundraisers throughout the year.

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